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L1: Entry 9 of 20

File: PGPB

Sep 19, 2002

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 20020133376 A1

TITLE: Health care network with durable medical equipment prescription and physician signature services

Summary of Invention Paragraph:

[0008] Aspects of the present invention may be found in a healthcare network that supports the prescription of durable medical equipment (DME). The network includes one or more databases that may initially store DME information regarding a patient and a certificate of medical necessity. The network further has a web server that is communicatively coupled to the database(s), and a physician computer that is in turn communicatively coupled to the web server. The computer runs browser software that is used by the physician to review the DME information and the certificate of medical necessity. The web server selectively delivers one or web pages to the physician computer that present the certificate of medical necessity and the DME information for review by the physician. The physician computer responds to input from the physician by at least initiating approval of the certificate of medical necessity, and communicating an approved certificate of medical necessity to the web server. The web server then stores the approved certificate of medical necessity in the database(s) for future access.

CLAIMS:

1. A healthcare network supporting the prescription of durable medical equipment (DME), the healthcare network comprising: DME information regarding a patient and a certificate of medical necessity; at least one database; a first web server communicatively coupled to the at least one database; a physician computer, communicatively coupled to the web server, running browser software used by a physician to review the DME information and the certificate of medical necessity; at least one web page, selectively delivered by the web server to the physician computer, that presents the certificate of medical necessity and the DME information for review by the physician; and the physician computer responding to input from the physician by at least initiating approval of the certificate of medical necessity and communicating an approved certificate of medical necessity to the web server, the web server storing the approved certificate of medical necessity in the at least one database for future access.

17. A healthcare network supporting the prescription of durable medical equipment (DME); the healthcare network comprising: at least one database that stores DME information regarding a patient and a certificate of medical necessity; a first web server communicatively coupled to the at least one database; a physician computer, communicatively coupled to the web server, running browser software used by a physician to review the DME information and the certificate of medical necessity; at least one web page, selectively delivered by the web server to the physician computer, that presents the certificate of medical necessity and the DME information for review by the physician; and the physician computer responding to input from the physician by at least initiating approval of the certificate of medical necessity and communicating an approved certificate of medical necessity to the web server, the web server storing the approved certificate of medical necessity in the at least one database for future access.

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L12 and (compar\$6 or modif\$6) same (fm1a or family medical leave act)	1

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<u>L12</u>	(medical\$3 or clinic\$4) same (certicat\$6 or paper or form) same request\$6	1060	<u>L12</u>
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<u>L5</u>	L4 and (compar\$6 or modif\$6) near20 request\$6 near20 (medical\$3 or hospital\$6 or doctor or physician)	0	<u>L5</u>

<u>L4</u>	(fmlla or family medical\$2 leave act) same(approv\$2 or disapprov\$3)	4	<u>L4</u>
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<u>L2</u>	(fmlla or family medical\$2 leave act) near20 (server or client) near20 (approv\$2 or disapprov\$3)	0	<u>L2</u>
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